

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 2269

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, XF

SUBJECT: NATO MIDDLE EAST/MAGHREB EXPERTS REPORT

REF: USNATO 2034

1. AS CITED REFTTEL, REPORTS OF AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EAST/
MAGHREB EXPERTS GROUPS WILL BE DISCUSSED IN NORTH ATLANTIC
COUNCIL MAY 2.

2. MID-EAST/MAGHREB REPORT (CIRCULATED TO CAPITALS AS NATO
DOCUMENT CM(74)21, DATED APRIL 18, 1974) IDENTIFIES FOLLOWING
DEVELOPMENTS OF POLICY INTEREST TO THE ALLIANCE:

A) PROGRESS IN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS SINCE NOVEMBER 1973
HAS BEEN ENCOURAGED BY CONSTRUCTIVE POSITIONS TAKEN BY EGYPTIAN
AND ISRAELI LEADERS AND MODERATION SHOWN BY MOST ARAB
LEADERS.

B) BOTH A DECLINE IN SOVIET AND A RESURGENCE OF AMERICAN
INFLUENCE IN CERTAIN COUNTRIES, AND ARAB DESIRES FOR IMPROVED
RELATIONSHIPS WITH EUROPEAN AND OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES OFFER
ENCOURAGING PROSPECTS FOR ALLIANCE MEMBERS.
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C) IN WELCOMING PROGRESS IN DISENGAGEMENT OF FORCES AND
SECRETARY KISSINGER'S ROLE THEREIN, EXPERTS HOPED THAT FURTHER
PROGRESS WOULD BOTH BE ACHIEVED WITHIN THE GENEVA CONTEXT AND
WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO REACHING AN AGREEMENT UNDER UN AUSPICES AND IN

PURSUIT OF SC RESOLUTIONS.

D) THE CHALLENGE OF THE OIL SITUATION WHICH WILL REQUIRE WESTERN COUNTRIES TO DEVISE RELATIONSHIPS WITH OIL PRODUCERS GUARANTEEING ADEQUATE SUPPLIES AT MANAGEZABLE PRICES.

E) GOVERNMENTS MUST SEEK TO CONVINCE OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES TO ACT RESPONSIBLY WITH THEIR FINANCIAL AFFLUENCE AND MUST WORK TO CONTROL INFLATION IN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE PRODUCING COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY THE LESS POPULOUS ONES, TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE OIL SUPPLIES.

F) WESTERN NATIONS SHOULD SUPPORT PLANS FOR THE SUEZ CANAL.

3. AS WITH AFRICAN REPORT (REFTEL), MISSION INTENDS THROUGH MORE DETAILED COVERAGE OF E/MAGHREB REPORT IN THE COUNCIL MAY 2 TO STIMULATE BOTH ALLIANCE CONSULTATION PROCESSES IN GENERAL AND TO PROMOTE GREATER AWARENESS OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN EXTRA-NATO AREAS. MISSION WOULD ACCORDINGLY APPRECIATE GUIDANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT BOTH ON ISSUES RAISED IN PARA 2 ABOVE - FOR EXAMPLE, ON ITEMS B AND E WHICH PARTICULARLY CALL FOR LONGER-TERM ALLIED PLANNING AND INVOLVEMENT - OR ON OTHERS THE DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE US TO RAISE OR STRESS AND WHICH COULD BE INTRODUCED TO STIMULATE AND SUSTAIN A USEFUL EXCHANGE IN THE MAY 2 COUNCIL MEETING. RUMSFELD

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